and distaff for spinning thread, and a number of metal kettles for dyeing the finished cloth a simple brown or blue. In the villages women do a certain amount of embroidery, for example, two flowered designs on a loosely-woven piece of cloth which can be cut out and stitched together to form a woman's cap, and of knitting, such as stockings in crudely dyed black and white yarn. Small, buff pottery jugs are fashioned without the wheel and daubed with designs in a red slip. There is a great deal of woodcarving, such as ladles, combs, bowls, cigarette-holders, and walking-sticks, some of which find their way out of the area to Erbil and even Baghdad. Save for a few pieces of carving, however, almost none of these products ever reach a larger market than that of Rowandus and bring only the smallest prices throughout the district. Women offer them for sale to the merchants in the hope of realizing a few coppers with which to buy trinkets, and none of these transactions, compared with agricultural or dairy produce, has great importance, either for merchant or for villager.

The collection of faggots and production of charcoal for winter fuel are important services performed by the villagers for the larger towns of the district. In the summer, blocks of mountain snow are in great demand in the town of Rowandus, particularly for chilling drinks such as sharbet or *mastaw* (a mixture of curdled milk, *mast*, and water, *aw*, drunk from a wooden bowl by means of a cumbersome wooden ladle), as well as large quantities of oak and willow branches which are constructed into summer arbors

produced and cheaper, tends more and more to replace stone 333
in house building, despite the fact that thereby the life
of a house, particularly in a region of winter rain and
snow, is considerably shortened. Mud-brick has undoubtedly
been known in the region from antiquity, but its greatly
increased use in the construction of house walls is a
feature of the last half-century. Cement-blocks, which
have been cited in certain government structures, are im-
ported, and these buildings themselves are constructed
under the direction of government engineers. Some of the
chieftains in outlying villages have not missed the advan-
tages of building stone and concrete over mud-brick as
far as small arms fire is concerned, and one of them,
Mahmud Beg of the Baradost, was busy in erecting a large [712]
building which on completion will be almost the duplicate
of a fortified police post.

The carpenters of the town are occupied partially 335
in building and partially in the repair of furniture and 322
certain manufactures. Heavier pieces of timber are rare
in such a deforested area, and most of them, such as lintels,
are used again and again. Mud-roofs are laid down on a
thick layer of poles and twigs which are furnished by
village woodmen. Doorposts and doors are made of heavy,
roughly cut timber, and window-frames with glass must be
imported from Erbil. Furniture, benches and chairs, are [352]
used for generations, and the carpenters simply repair
them, rather than manufacture new items. Aside from this

Aside from this
work in building and repair, the only significant production 335
of the carpenters is the small chest used by housewives for 322
their goods. Almost every married woman has a collection 322
of "treasures," clothing, jewelry, glassware, and the like, 422
which dates from her wedding (it is, in fact, a part of 415
her dowry, and a significant economic commodity, as it may [583]
include a sizeable sum in gold), and which is displayed
on festive occasions. These goods are stored in wooden
chests, sometimes covered with sheets of tin, and always
brightly painted. Two shops in Rowanduz maintained by
carpenters display a large number of these, and there is
always a demand for them in the event of a wedding. The 412
carpenter's tools and equipment, mattocks, hammers, planes, [439]
chisels, nails, and so on, are almost all imported from
Europe or elsewhere in the Middle East. Wooden biers, and 322
occasionally coffins, for the dead are also made by the [764]
carpenters. Smaller items of wood, such as cradles, are [854]
fashioned in the households of villagers.

The main work of the farriers and blacksmiths is 326
the shoeing of horses, mules, and donkeys. The govern- 231
ment veterinarian attends to the beasts of the civil [232]
service and army, but, although his services are available
to the townspeople, most prefer the farriers who, in
addition to their craft, are thought to be experts in
curing animal diseases. The workshops of both farriers and
blacksmiths, with their distinctive anvils and charcoal
fires, are within the bazar, and the shoeing of a donkey

8: Leach E-5 (1938) 1940 MA11 Kurd MA11
Rowanduz

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Plate 11.
Winnowing. Rayat Village.

• 322

Plate 12.
The travelling carpenter makes a winnowing fork.

[opposite page 74 - F]